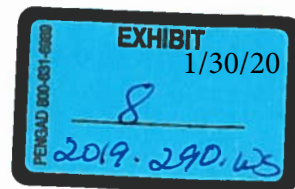


Thank you.

1. I have never seen a business rewarded so frequently and so often for failure like this wing of the Corix companies has been rewarded by PSC over the last 3-5 years. Let there be no confusion - This is a bailout, at the expense of the rate-payer. Much like other bailouts, it results in the everyday citizen paying out of pocket, while affording the company a life raft for profit, excusing the previous failures (Polluting our waterways, failed friarsgate plant, mismanagement of assets), and providing an outlet and funds for extravagant expenditures. This rate hike request represents an existential threat to many of my constituents, and every single one of your fixed/low income rate payers.

2. The history of this wing of the CORIX company polluting our waterways is well documented and represents a clear and particular failure of the singular role of a sewer company. Collect, treat, and don't pollute. As the saying goes, "you had one job", and CORIX has failed miserably at it. There should be no reward for that.

3. When I want to make more money, I work harder. If I want to keep more money in my pocket, I SPEND LESS. I don't say "well ive mismanaged my role for the last 5 years and now if you want me to do my job right, you need to pay me more" – that is essentially what BG is saying to PSC. Rate payers have been paying for the proper collection and treatment for years, including rate hikes which have got us to 65/mo, while those profits have been neatly tucked away – all the while the rate payer has endured the pain of opening the paper to see another spill, another example of mismanagement, and now you want



-500k Rebranding

To that point, your relocations represent the complete opposite of accessibility, accountability, and cutting discretionary expenditures.

- Don't Ask rate payers too

7. Set aside a percentage of your profits for fixed-income and low-income rate payers, to whom this rate requests represents potentially an existential threat. I understand that may not be desired and will represent a hardship for you, but that comes no where close to the hardship that this rate request represents to your rate payers in the fixed/low income brackets.

If fixed/low must tighten their belts, choose between medicine and their sewer bill, choose between moving or staying, choose between college savings and sewer, THEN YOU TOO should be tightening your belt.

I'll say it again – this rate hike represents an EXISTENTIAL THREAT to low and fixed income rate-payers, as the service you provide is both a monopoly and a requirement for occupation. Your proposed rate hike represents a forced removal of \$50,000 monthly from the local economy, which has negative rippling effects across the entire midlands. I urge PSC to push back on the rate hike request with a request of their own: Do your job that you were paid for, show us your willingness to cut discretionary costs, stop polluting, and request BG negotiate a rate with City Columbia for usage based billing.

a raise?

You want the rate-payer to pay for your poorly designed, implemented, and maintained treatment plant in friarsgate?

4. This whole process of rewarding an organization for all their capex, discretionary spending, and mismanagement over the last 5+ years with an even larger pool of cash from rate payers is disturbing, and antithetical to the way business is run anywhere outside of psc/monopoly regulated environments. I may not have much of a choice when it comes to my local ISP, but at least I have options. As I have no options (including septic) locally, the onus for proper maintenance, performance, and environmental concerns falls on BG, with strict regulation by dhec and psc.

5. Was there no reserve appropriated over the course of the last 5 years to do maintenance? To properly manage the friarsgate treatment plant? To rectify the constancy of pollution issues that stand in stark juxtaposition to the clean water act provisions?

6. Cut costs elsewhere. There MUST be a requirement of give and take. If you must take from rate payers, then you must say “while we recognize the significant increase in rates is prohibitive and represents a extraordinary decision by rate payers to be able to budget and simply make ends meet – “should I spread out my medication for the month to two months, just so I can pay my sewer bill” then we too, must make cutbacks. NOT the cutbacks we’ve been making over the last 5 years regarding concern for our environmental impacts, but cutbacks on discretionary spending”